

Professional development follow-up to Webinar #7 “Meeting Plans”

“Back to the Future: Arts Teachers Lead the Way”

In 2011-2012, there are a series of free webinars (<http://www.maine.gov/education/lres/vpa/assessment.html>) which will address the key components of the Maine Arts Assessment Initiative. These webinars have optional “meeting plans”, which all educators can use or adapt to facilitate faculty meetings, conversations, or study groups looking at quality arts assessment practices. Feel free to choose an appropriate meeting plan for your group.

Suggestions for Use:

- At a full staff meeting at your school or district
- At an arts staff meeting in your school, district or region
- As an individual educator to learn more about assessment
- Adapt as needed.

Be sure to make arrangements for participants to preview the webinar prior to this meeting.

Meeting Plan option #1:

Maine Arts Assessment Initiative Phase II Involvement

(Ahead of time, have the staff view the archived May 23 Webinar #7: *Back to the Future: Arts Teachers Lead the Way*)

The purpose of this staff meeting is to:

- Become familiar with the multiple facets of the MAAI Phase II
- Become familiar with Maine’s Strategic Plan: Education Evolving: Maine’s Plan for Putting Learners First
- Create an Arts Education Action Plan for district-wide involvement, aligned with the State’s Strategic Plan

Materials needed:

- connection (individual or group) to the webinar archive
- **Pre-meeting** - arrange for everyone to have **already viewed** the webinar and come prepared to discuss the components involved in the Phase II overview.
- Crosswalk template, used in the webinar, as an example for organizing alignment

Set-up:

Participants should be ready to articulate their own ideas and listen to those of the others.

Time needed: 45 minutes

Large Group Discussion – 15 minutes

What are some components of Phase II that seem like a natural extension of the work being done in your District? What are some components that might fill current voids in District wide work? Which components seem like the most essential as we move forward in our work as a state? Review the Crosswalk to see how arts education might align with the State's Strategic Plan. How might your district align arts education goals to the State's Strategic Plan? Make a list of overarching categories (i.e. Technology, Assessment, Leadership, Community of Practice, Professional Development).

Small Group Discussion – 15 minutes

What action steps can be taken into your District's VPA activities for 2012-2013 and how should those be facilitated and supported (time, resources, additional Professional Development)? Vehicles for individual involvement are encouraged as are ways for the collective District to be involved.

Whole Group – 15 minutes

Have small groups report out. As an entire group, devise an action plan for next school year; what can be done to further arts education as a district and how will those direct connections be made to MAAI. The time concludes with an action plan in place moving forward.

Post Meeting Assignment

A followup meeting should be held at the end of the Summer (or in the Fall) to identify and map out logical next steps. The group should be prepared to assign leadership roles as befits the identified goals.

Meeting Plan option #2:

Commissioner Bowen's Direction for Education in Maine and Role of the Arts

The purpose of this staff meeting is to:

- 1) engage arts staff in discussion about the role our subject area plays as we move forward refining educational practices
- 2) articulate precisely where the Department of Education stands with regard to our work as a state and certainly within each individual district
- 3) identify where pieces of the DOE strategic plan are already moving forward in your individual district
- 1) identify where pieces of the DOE strategic plan are currently missing or unaddressed in your individual district

Materials needed:

- Chart paper and markers
- connection (individual or group) to the webinar archive
- digital access to the DOE strategic plan:
(http://www.maine.gov/doe/plan/education_evolution/index.html)

Set-up:

Participants should be ready to articulate their own ideas and listen to those of the others.

Participants should have already become familiar with or at least read through the DOE strategic plan (link above)

Time needed: One hour, 30 minutes

Large Group overview of the Strategic Plan – 20 minutes

Either projected on a screen or viewed on individual laptops, review the strategic plan on the DOE website. Highlight components of particular interest or concern.

Large Group view: watch the interview with Commissioner Bowen – 50 minutes

There are 8 questions in the webinar and the goal of this 50 minute session is to listen to the 4 minute discussion of each one individually, and then comment on what was heard as a large group; pause the webinar after each question is discussed by the Commissioner. Notes should be taken on a white board or large paper of everyone's comments and feedback. The intent is to give constructive feedback that is specific and ties directly to Visual and Performing Arts education.

Large Group share – 20 minutes

Discuss ramifications for the information discussed in the interview as a whole. Mandate that each participant must participate with at least one "takeaway". Talk about how it may impact your work as a district and possible proactive steps you can take to further your work in assessment and standards based reporting.

Post Meeting

A Curriculum leader or teacher leader can take the feedback and compile a list of takeaways and next steps. A blog post may be written and submitted to Argy Nestor, a list of questions may be drafted for the Commissioner, an action plan as a District may be generated in response, and any or all of these may be produced collaboratively in future professional development sessions.